



The X-PRESS

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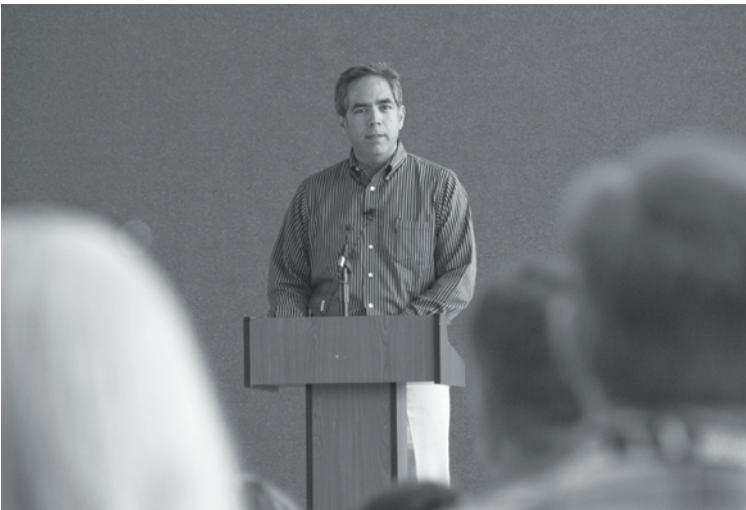
Emphasis on safety

Safety allows Dryden to ‘do the difficult and impossible’

By Jay Levine
X-Press Editor

A screen flashed with dazzling images of an Orion crew module and launch abort system successfully flying at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. Another image showed the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy, which had a number of milestones recently including the first observations in flight through its telescope.

The Global Hawk flew across the screen, much like it did during its first science missions in April. The DC-8 completed an Operation IceBridge mission to examine changes in ice shelves and sea ice. Dryden also assisted in imaging and research when



ED10 0184-16

NASA Photo by Tony Landis

At the July 15 event, Center Director David McBride thanked Dryden employees for their contributions and reminded them to work safely.

the G-III was sent to monitor Haiti fault lines after the earthquake there and the ER-2 flew to take images of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

It was a short video, but it was packed with major Dryden achievements all over the world and research that will impact people everywhere, said Dryden Center Director David McBride at the July 15 Dryden Safety Day.

“Everything you saw on the screen was because of you. We are accomplishing our jobs safely. We need to continue to do that,” McBride said.

Safety also continues to be a

See Safety Day, page 4

Global Observer wing tested in the loads lab

By Gray Creech
Dryden Public Affairs

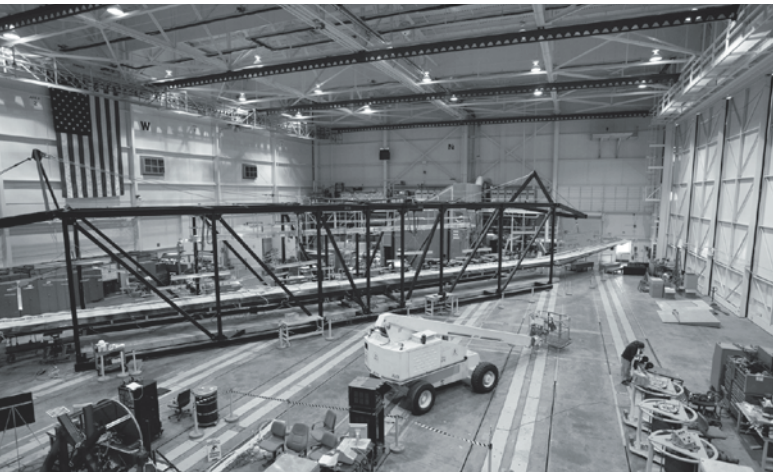
An immense erector set-like structure is taking up a lot of space in the Flight Loads Laboratory at Dryden, and it holds the longest item ever tested there.

The structure, known to lab engineers and technicians as a reaction frame, is designed to test a 175-foot-span Global Observer aircraft wing, built by AeroVironment Inc.

The reaction frame is positioned diagonally in the lab in order for the huge wing to fit, with little room to spare beyond the wingtips.

To ensure that it is strong enough to endure potentially tough flight conditions, the wing was tested to 100 percent of its maximum load

See Global Observer, page 8



ED07 0142-25

NASA Photo by Tony Landis

The 175-foot Global Observer wing, the longest item ever researched in the Dryden Flight Loads Laboratory, recently underwent a series of tests.

Dryden Peer Awards return

Milton O. Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award
Wilt Lock, OE

Dryden Center Director’s Award
John Carter, PE

2010 Pride in NASA (PIN) Awards
Ronnie Boghosian, Tybrin; Rene Holland, M; Valerie Jones, CSC; and Desiree Sylvia, Media Fusion

Mission Impossible
Recognizes an employee who succeeds using innovation and hard work despite difficult or challenging circumstances; Sean Clarke, RF.

Rising Star
Recognizes individuals who are making significant contributions to Dryden’s mission at an early stage in their career. Nalin Ratnayake, RA and Daniel Lehan, Arcata.

Unsung Hero
Recognizes employees who make critical contributions to the mission in a behind-the-scenes role. Craig Stephens, RS, Larry Hudson, RS, and Monte Cook, OA

Inspirational Cackle Award
Lesa (Marston) Brady, CR

Can-Do Attitude
Recognizes employees who regularly “get the job done” with a positive attitude. Jerry Dobbins, Kay & Associates, Jeffery Nelms, MI, and Syri Koelfgen, RA.

Mentor
Recognizes employees who demonstrate outstanding performance in mentoring new and established employees. Ronald Ray, R, and Ross Hathaway, RA.



NASA Photos by Tom Tschida

Wilt Lock, center, receives the Milton O. Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award from James Stewart, left, and Center Director David McBride.



Center Director David McBride, right, presents the Center Director’s Award to John Carter.



Center Director David McBride, left, presents a Presidential Meritorious Executive in the Senior Executive Service Award to David Wright.

Student
For a student participating in Dryden’s sponsored student program who shows exceptional initiative, cooperation, excellence, and exemplary performance during his/her term at Dryden. Alexander Chin, RS.

“The Voice Dryden Listens To” Award
Annette Pitre, ARCATA

Supervisor/Manager/Leader
For outstanding leadership and/or management qualities that deliver exceptional results. Thomas Horn, R, and Catherine Bahm, PE.

Engineer/Scientist/Pilot
Recognizes employees who apply fundamental principles, develop and test new technologies, or perform other outstanding contributions in their field. William Ko, RS, Mark Pestana, OF, Manny Antimisiaris, OF

Technician/Mechanic
Recognizes an employee who exhibits technical expertise, significant performance, enthusiasm, determination, and dedication to Dryden in a technical support area. William Sabo, OC, and Jerry Dobbins, Kay & Associates

One-Woman Show Award
Tamera Ristrim, Lockheed Martin

Facilities Personnel
Recognizes an employee for significant work toward meeting the Center’s facilities’ goals and objectives. Liliana Orozco, Olympus

Safety
Recognizes an employee who has made Dryden a safer place to work through their primary, collateral, or significant voluntary efforts. Jon Turnipseed, CSC

See Peer Awards, page 7

Gibson will address Dryden employees in the ISF Aug. 13

Former astronaut Robert L. “Hoot” Gibson has an impressive aerospace resume. He’s logged five space shuttle missions, was a “Top Gun” U.S. Navy fighter pilot, flew commercial airliners and has been a race pilot. In addition, he also holds three spaceflight world records and six aircraft records.

Gibson is coming to the Antelope Valley for two events Dryden employees can attend, one of which includes a barbecue and ball game at the Lancaster JetHawks Aerospace Appreciation Night.

His first appearance is scheduled



Robert L. Gibson

to be in the ISF auditorium at 1 p.m. Aug. 13, where he will talk about his experiences and insights.

Dryden employees can then see him again on Saturday at Aerospace Appreciation Night. For \$10 a ticket, now on sale at the Dryden Gift Shop, Dryden employees can see the Lancaster JetHawks

take on the Inland Empire 66ers and a brief ceremony honoring Gibson.

The fun begins at 2 p.m. for ticket holders, with mini softball games or batting practice and a water balloon toss, sack race, inflatables and other games located on the field. Dinner will be at 4 p.m. with a choice of

grilled chicken, brisket, hot dogs, hamburgers or cheeseburgers. Also included are potato chips, baked beans, soft drinks, water and dessert. Alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. A drawing is set for 5:30 p.m., the game starts at 7 p.m. and the JetHawks are offering a bobble head of Gibson to early arriving fans. Some JetHawks players might also be available for autographs.

Gibson’s flight experience includes over 6,000 hours in more than 50 types of civil and military aircraft. He holds airline transport pilot, multi-engine and instrument ratings, and has held a private pilot rating since he was 17. Gibson has also completed over 300 carrier landings.

Flown in space

Former NASA astronaut Vance Brand, third from right, presented a City of Palmdale flag flown on STS-132 to Palmdale Mayor Jim Ledford, fourth from right. Joining Brand and Ledford, from left, are Russ Billings and David Alexander from the Dryden Education Office; City Councilman Steve Hofbauer; George Grimshaw, Dryden space shuttle operations manager; and Steve Schmidt, DAOF director.



ED10 0080-01

NASA Photo by Jim Ross

SATERN upgraded for improved support

NASA’s learning management system, SATERN, was recently given an upgrade to improve support for training requirements throughout the agency. The NASA Shared Services Center identified improvements that would allow easier system access while simplifying training requests and behind-the-scenes training-support processes.

The upgrade team focused on three main issues: ease of

access, application navigation and simplification of training requests. Its actions were intended to address three years of concerns raised through help-desk support, and were based in knowledge of upgrades available for the basic application package.

The team recognized that the requirement for a SATERN-unique user ID and password logon process created the majority of problems for

system users and NSSC customer support. With the support of application vendors and the NASA Enterprise Application Competency Center, the majority of system users accessing SATERN from a workplace desktop can now log on to SATERN without re-entering a user ID and password. The success of these changes to system access is reflected in a significant reduction in customer calls made to the NSSC

relating to logon problems.

The process for training-opportunity searches and report criteria were also improved to provide greater flexibility and improved application navigation. Instead of having to know a specific course title or ID, searches now allow the user to enter part of the field they want to search and set the

See NSSC, page 8

News at NASA

It’s official

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden has named Ramon “Ray” Lugo III as director of Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, effective July 18. Lugo has been acting director since March.

As director, Lugo is responsible for planning, organizing and leading the activities needed to accomplish the center’s missions. Glenn has research, technology and systems development programs in space propulsion, space power, space communications, aeronautical propulsion and microgravity sciences.

Lugo was named Glenn’s deputy director in November 2007. Before that, he served as deputy manager of the Launch Services program at Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Lugo’s work has earned numerous honors, including two NASA Exceptional Achievement Medals and three NASA Outstanding Leadership Medals. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from the University of Central Florida in 1979 and a master’s degree in engineering management from the Florida Institute of Technology in 1982.

Safety Day ... from page 1

hallmark of Dryden's construction programs as an eleventh year was marked with no safety mishaps, he added. However, McBride cautioned that vigilance is required to avoid an emerging safety trend. McBride's slides showed an increase in injuries.

"If the injury rate remains the same by the end of December, we will have a record year for injuries at Dryden," McBride said. "What this means over the long run is that everyone who spends over 20 years of his or her career at Dryden can expect to suffer an injury. This is a record I don't care for Dryden to obtain."

McBride acknowledged that Dryden's flight research work has inherent risks.

"This is a dangerous business. We do dangerous things and people do get hurt. But we never conduct an operation that is not safe. The nature of our business is risk and we need to understand what each risk is. Then we continue to do the difficult and impossible," he said.

The next speaker noted that Dryden employees are working safely at work but asked whether they were as aggressive in preparing at home for a natural disaster, such as an earthquake.

Capt. Scott Polgar of the Los Angeles County Fire Department said only 9 percent of people are prepared for an emergency and only about 4 percent of them have enough water for five days.

The Haitian earthquake is an example of how severe a natural disaster can be. The disaster claimed 22,000 lives and 1.5 million people remain homeless, seeking shelter in what has become the largest refugee camp in the world, he said.

California has its share of earthquakes, fires and floods, Polgar said. As a result, the state emergency services have developed partnerships and mutual aid agreements that work better than anywhere else because they are often used.

"Emergency services here are a



ED10 0185-39

NASA Photo by Tony Landis

***Above**, motivational ad safety speaker John Drebing, standing, uses a little magic to make a point about how people can become distracted. Those distractions can make people less aware of what is happening around them and make them more prone to safety mishaps. **Below**, left, Capt. Scott Polgar of the Los Angeles County Fire Department reminded Dryden employees of the need to be prepared for emergencies. **Bottom right**, Robert Dismukes, chief scientist for aerospace human factors at Ames Research Center, discussed a new area of study called prospective memory.*



ED10 0185-24

NASA Photo by Tom Tschida



ED10 0185-48

NASA Photo by Tony Landis

well-oiled machine that is second to none," he said.

When a disaster happens emergency services are often overwhelmed, but there is a procedure that allows responders to access the severity of the event,

survey the challenges and prioritize where the focus on recovery efforts needs to be, Polgar said.

"We are looking to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people," he said.

People can help reduce the

stresses on emergency responders by having an evacuation plan for their homes in an emergency and having basic disaster supplies on hand such as canned foods, water and a first aid kit customized to the residents' specific needs.

As a general rule, the minimum water requirement is one gallon per person per day for drinking. That does not include other water needs such as washing hands, Polgar said. Other items might include a flashlight, batteries, cash, any medicines (like for blood pressure or diabetes), pet supplies, extra clothes, blankets, fire extinguisher, bleach and books.

Also be aware of items not strapped down or vulnerable to damage in an earthquake. Even knowledge of those items can save lives, he said. In the 1994 Northridge earthquake, non-structural hazards, such as light fixtures and items on shelves, killed 67 people, Polgar said.

Next up was safety and motivational speaker John Drebing, who has recently shed 100 pounds as part of his personal commitment to health and safety.

Aside from people taking responsibility for their own safety, Drebing also said people need to look out for each other.

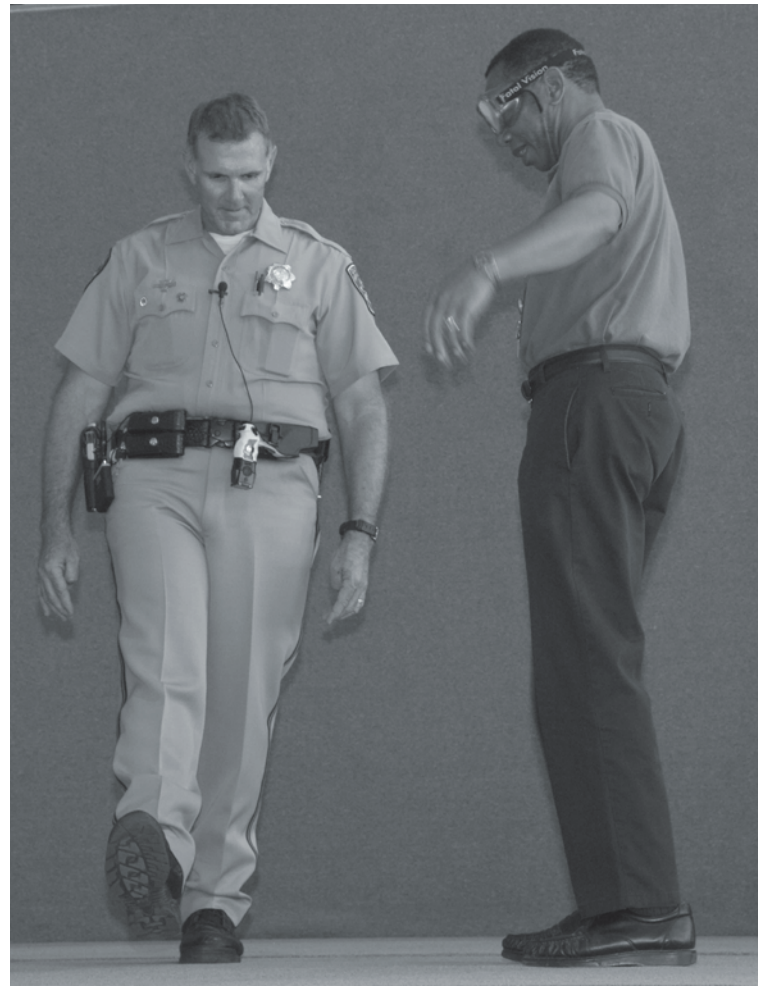
"We don't want people learning from experience about safety," he said.

As an example of the distractions all around people, he managed to take a wristwatch off of Dennis Hines, Dryden associate director for programs. Hines was assisting Drebing with a magic trick when the distractions allowed for the watch to be acquired.

When driving, he said to assume that other drivers are distracted and advised taking precautions such as giving them a bit more room from bumper to bumper.

"You can predict the future by observing the world around you. A dented-up car may be the best a person could afford, or it might be they bought it new and the dents are a sign saying, 'I can't drive,'" Drebing said.

If a person observes something unsafe, they should "make a difference and do something," he said. Asking a person if they want you to look out for their safety is one way to limit the potential



ED10 0184-65

NASA Photo by Tony Landis

Hindered by a pair of distortion glasses, Mark Dickerson, right, finds it difficult to walk a Driving-Under-the-Influence line as demonstrated by California Highway Patrol officer Edward Smith.

discomfort of taking that step, Drebing said.

Distractibility in creating safety risks was a concern of Robert Dismukes, chief scientist for aerospace human factors at Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Calif.

"Prospective memory is a new area of study of what we intend to do, but don't," he said.

One way to avoid the challenge is by creating cues to remember. Sometimes a location, like an office, can be a cue to do something. Other times different cues, such as writing a note, are required, Dismukes said.

"Distractions and interruptions are all around and cell phones are a good example. Cell phones are as dangerous to drivers as drunk

driving. People hit people, veer out of the lane, or rear end the car in front of them because of cell-phone distractions," he said.

Multitasking is another distraction. Research has found that multitaskers are unfocused and are more likely to make an error.

Rounding out the slate of speakers was Edward Smith, a California Highway Patrol officer based in Mojave.

CHP officers are concerned with enforcement, education and engineering. Enforcement is obvious and educating people on laws is self-explanatory, but the engineering area of the job might not be as commonly known, he said.

Smith explained that traffic

The Safety and Mission Assurance Office continues to seek feedback and suggestions on Safety Day from employees; questionnaires will be available soon on the Xnet.

fatalities might have some common threads and CHP officers help work with other offices to identify and fix areas that have proven to be problematic for drivers.

"We are not just involved in writing speeding and seatbelt tickets," he said.

The California Highway Patrol also assists other law enforcement agencies in gang and drug enforcement and as many as 3,000 CHP officers can be mobilized in 24 hours if needed for a state emergency such as an earthquake.

Smith also reinforced the cell-phone-distraction theme, saying that people need to reduce distractions when they are behind the wheel by paying attention to road closures and refraining from eating, putting on makeup and avoiding drowsiness behind the wheel. Those distractions can be as dangerous as drunk drivers.

Seatbelts are a major area of enforcement, Smith said. A key reason is illustrated in 13 recent traffic deaths in the immediate area; nine of those were attributed to victims not wearing their seatbelts.

Concerning drunk driving, he said there were 1,355 deaths in California in 2009 and more than 28,000 injuries. The average first-time offender also can expect fines and insurance premium increases of more than \$13,000.

Regardless of a Dryden employee's location, the featured speakers shared one idea – pay attention to what you're doing and keep an eye out for each other.

Teachers experience airborne research

By Leslie Williams
Dryden Public Affairs

Six enthusiastic Southern California teachers harnessed NASA education resources this summer through the agency’s Airborne Research Experiences for Educators and Students program.

The six were competitively selected to participate in an AREES summer workshop held June 21 through July 16 in Palmdale, Calif. The workshop was designed to help participants identify and implement educator and student activities in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, disciplines that leverage the wide variety of aircraft, flight missions and research opportunities across NASA.

The AREES initiative supports NASA’s commitment to STEM education by providing K-12 educators and students with NASA content-based resources, materials and instructional and enrichment activities. Through the program, teachers are developing curricula and activities for the upcoming school year.

On June 29 and again on July 8, the group participated in science missions flown by a Gulfstream-III research aircraft equipped with a sophisticated synthetic aperture radar system developed by NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. The flights, made from the Dryden Aircraft Operations Facility in Palmdale, collected radar data for earthquake



ED10 0175-43

NASA Photo by Tom Tschida

Six master elementary and high school teachers who participated in earthquake and soil moisture research flights aboard NASA’s Gulfstream III research aircraft during the AREES program gather around the UAVSAR pod mounted beneath the aircraft. From left are AREES project manager Shaun Smith, teachers Sonja Squires, Bobbie Mitchell, Doug Phelps, Marie Blue, Marlene McShea, AREES faculty consultant Vikki Costa of California State University at Fullerton, teacher Julie Bookman and Dryden engineering operations specialist Michelle Haupt.

and soil moisture studies and provided educators with insight on NASA’s collection methodology.

Participating in the mission “made me realize that I have been missing the boat entirely by not having such high-level, stimulating activities that align with the students’ curriculum standards,” said Bobbie Mitchell, an eighth-grade algebra teacher at Amargosa Creek Middle School in Lancaster,

Calif. “I need to get students excited about learning and show them that they have a great future here in the Antelope Valley.”

In her classes, Mitchell said she begins each school year by asking students, “Who likes math?” Often, she says, no one raises a hand.

But another of the group, Maria Blue, a first-grade teacher at Santa Clarita’s Plum Canyon Elementary

School, said her students often say that they like math, leading Mitchell and Blue to wonder what happens to make students lose interest in math between elementary and middle school.

“AREES provides a way for educators to engage in cutting-edge airborne science research and technology,” said Vikki Costa, a faculty consultant from California State University, Fullerton. “The program includes guidance in translating these experiences into multi-disciplinary K-12 curricula that provide students with the most current information about critical science issues, including climate change, weather and earthquake monitoring.

“Through investigations, engineering design challenges and project-based learning, students also explore future careers in STEM fields.”

The AREES program goal is to stimulate interest in NASA’s Earth Science research and, with the help of educators, support recruitment of the agency’s future engineers and scientists, said AREES project manager Shaun Smith.

“We use unique NASA resources to inspire the next generation of explorers,” Smith said. “We’re doing that through the aircraft, the missions and the science behind the missions. We have access to platforms, technical personnel and

See Teachers, page 7

Students immersed in Earth Science research

By Leslie Williams
Dryden Public Affairs

Twenty-eight undergraduate and graduate college students are participating in a six-week Airborne Science field experience designed to immerse them in NASA’s Earth Science research. The students represent 22 colleges and universities across the United States and in two foreign countries, India and Mexico. NASA’s Student Airborne Research Program, or SARP, At the Dryden Aircraft

runs from June 20 to July 30 in California. It began with lectures from university faculty members from four universities, NASA scientists and from research program managers at the University of California, Irvine, including UCI’s Sherwood Rowland, a Nobel laureate in chemistry and long-time user of NASA’s DC-8 airborne science laboratory in his research on atmospheric chemistry.

Operations Facility in Palmdale, Calif., students in the program were given a rare behind-the-scenes look at the instrument integration, flight planning and payload testing that is the basis of every Earth Science airborne campaign carried out by NASA, with the DC-8 or with other science aircraft. These campaigns play a pivotal role in the calibration and validation of NASA’s space-borne Earth observations, remote-

sensing measurements and the high-resolution imagery used in Earth system science.

Divided into investigative groups to study atmospheric effects of dairy emissions, evapo-transpiration from orchards and row crops, and distribution and abundance of giant kelp, the students flew aboard the converted jetliner for an experiment check flight and the five- to six-hour

See Students, page 8

Peer Awards ...

from page 2

Mission Support – Administrative
Recognizes significant contributions in administrative or secretarial support. Desiree Sylvia, Media Fusion

Mission Support – Administrative Professional
Recognizes an employee who performs exemplary professional administrative work. Meryl Zimmerman, SAIC

The “Dryden’s Bride” Award
Mary Whelan, ARCATA

Mission Support – Education/ Outreach/Volunteer
Recognizes an employee who epitomizes the true spirit of outreach through enthusiasm and dedication; for those individuals who give back to Dryden and our communities through volunteerism and selfless giving. James Sokolik, OF

Mission Support – Finance/Resources
Recognizes an employee performing exemplary financial or resources management work. Kerri Tannert, Media Fusion

Mission Support – Information Technology
Recognizes significant IT support contributions by an employee who



NASA Photo by Tom Tschida

The Dryden Executive Leadership Team cooks up lunch for Dryden employees.

is enthusiastic, creative, quick, and successful at creating solutions for customers. Jeffery Nelms, MI

Mission Support
Recognizes an employee who performs exemplary support services in an enthusiastic manner. Jose Hernandez, AERO Institute

The Positive Attitude Award
Jose Ojeda, OLYMPUS

Teamwork
Recognizes high-performing teams that collaborate to successfully achieve common goals.

The Automatic Collision Avoidance Technology Integrated Test Team
Otis Allen (OA), Don Bailes (CSC), Vincent J Bayne (OM), JJ Col Mitchell (AFFTC), Art Cope (OM), Jason Cudnik (OE), Matt Davis (AFFTC), Billie Flynn


(Lockheed Martin), Russell Franz (RI), Paul Harvey (AFFTC), David Hernandez (AFFTC), Sandra Hewes (Media Fusion), Loyd Hook (RF), Jeremy Knittel (ME), Nils Larson (OF), Peter Marks (CSC), Shaun Mcwherter (RC), Duane Moore (AFFTC), Joe Orwat (SF), Kevin Prosser (Cal Span), Ron Rohe (OA), Jack Ryan (RC), Mark Skoog (Z), Michael Smith (AFFTC), Paul Sorokowski (AFFTC), Evan Valeri (AFFTC), John Weigelt (Tybrin), Jay Welch (Lockheed Martin), Adam White (AFFTC), Jamie Willhite (RF)

Integrated Vehicle Health Monitoring RTIP Team
David Berger (RA), Mike Delaney (RI), Mark Dickerson (PA), Chris Duggan (Tybrin), Jim Faber (Tybrin), Ross Hathaway (RA), Syri Koelfgen (RA) Ed Koshimoto (RA), Deleena Noble (Tybrin), Mike Venti (Tybrin)

Bowl trip on tap; feedback sought

A few tickets were still available at press time for the Exchange Council’s Aug. 28 bus trip to the Hollywood Bowl to see John Williams. The bus will depart from Lancaster City Park at 5 p.m. Concertgoers may bring along a picnic dinner, or food is available for purchase at the Bowl. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased in the Gift Shop.

Feedback about the recent Peer Awards is being sought! Employees are encouraged to fill out the Peer Awards survey on the Xnet: <http://xnet4.dfrc.nasa.gov/PeerAwardsSurvey/index.cfm>. All input is appreciated.



Aug. 16, 1978 – Donald Mallick delivered C-47B (43-49526/ N636NA) from Lewis Research Center, Ohio. It was given the new registration of N827NA.

Aug. 30, 1978 – The Aero Spacelines B-377SG Super Guppy (N1038V) was delivered to Dryden Flight Research Center for storage.

Aug. 13, 1980 – XV-15 (N703NA) was delivered to Dryden inside a C-5A.

-Passings-

Herbert L. Hatcher, 82, died May 31. He was a former NACA and NASA employee.

Dominic “Nick” Massimino, 89, died July 16. Massimino was a 30-year NASA employee and was a crew chief on the F-104 and T-38.

George Nichols, a 30-year NASA employee, died July 27. A memorial service will be held Aug. 9. Contact Ed Hamlin, ext. 3526, for information.

Teachers ... from page 6

actual flights.” Smith said the ultimate goal of the summer program is to make the instructional materials developed by teachers in the AREES workshops available at the national level, as well as to extend the program to other areas across the nation.

The other teachers involved in the AREES program were Marlene McShea, who teaches biology and chemistry at Lancaster’s Paraclete

High School; Julie Bookman, a biology teacher at Palmdale High School; Douglas Phelps, who teaches chemistry at the SAGE Academy at Belmont High School in Sherman Oaks, Calif.; and Sonja Steffan-Squires, a science teacher at Joe Walker Middle School in Quartz Hill, Calif. The six teachers will receive professional development hours that can be applied toward maintaining

their teaching credential. They also have the option to receive three graduate-level credits from CSU-Fullerton. The AREES program is co-sponsored by the Dryden education office and the Teaching From Space program at Johnson Space Center in Houston, in partnership with the AERO – Aerospace Education Research and Operations– Institute in Palmdale, and CSU-Fullerton.

Weaver new AA for Office of Communications

David Weaver began work July 19 as NASA’s associate administrator for the Office of Communications. Weaver is a senior public administration professional with 25 years of experience in government, politics, media relations and public policy.

At NASA, Weaver directs internal and external agency communications and serves as a senior advisor to NASA’s leadership. He is responsible

for managing an agency-wide staff of 350 that implements all aspects of NASA’s external and internal communications.

Immediately prior to coming to NASA, Weaver was chief of staff to U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.), where he oversaw the congressman’s personal and district office staff and budget. He ran the office’s legislative, communications, scheduling and

constituent services operations and served as a senior adviser to Van Hollen, a member of the House leadership.

Weaver also served as press secretary to former U.S. Rep. Robert Torricelli (D-NJ). He worked for former White House Press Secretary James S. Brady and his wife Sarah at the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence (formerly Handgun Control Inc.), where

he served as assistant director for state legislation. Weaver served as a legislative aide for Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr., when Biden served as a U.S. senator. He also worked with the polling firm of Washington, D.C.-based Garin-Hart Research.

Weaver received a Bachelor of Arts degree in government and politics from the University of Maryland.

Students ... from page 6

data-collection flights.

From its base at the Palmdale facility, the modified DC-8 science laboratory flew north over almond and cotton fields in California’s San Joaquin Valley, crisscrossed the valley at 1,000 feet above ground from just south of Fresno to the Stockton area and over coastal valleys between Monterey and Camp Roberts to collect air samples, then flew over Monterey Bay and the Santa Barbara Channel at 10,500 feet altitude to study giant kelp beds.

“The program was a great experience for me because I was fully involved in all aspects of a NASA

mission, from flight planning to the flight itself to the data analysis and presentation of what we learned,” said Robert Carroll, a University of New Hampshire graduate student in chemical engineering.

The student program is one of NASA’s tools for training future scientists for Earth Science missions that support environmental study and the development and testing of new instruments and future satellite mission concepts. The program’s goal is to stimulate interest in the agency’s Earth Science research and support recruitment of the next generation of engineers and

scientists.

Through this and other college and university programs, NASA is developing critical skills and capabilities needed for the agency’s engineering, scientific and technical missions.

The Student Airborne Research Program is managed through the National Suborbital Education and Research Center at the University of North Dakota, with funding and support from NASA’s Airborne Science program. The center was established through a cooperative agreement between the University of North Dakota and NASA.

Global Observer ... from page 1

capacity, though it’s designed to withstand up to 150 percent of predicted wing loading. Wing loading is the measure of stress that aircraft wings undergo as a result of turbulent air, aircraft maneuvers, or both.

“This testing is expanding the lab’s

capabilities in terms of quantity and variety of instrumentation measurements, and by implementing new real-time data analysis software into the lab’s control room,” said Eric Miller, lead project engineer at Dryden. “On top of that, it’s another

important step in developing our in-house fiber optic shape and load measurement capabilities.”

Technicians installed the Dryden-developed fiber optic wing shape sensor instrumentation and performed checkouts for the wing-loads tests that recently wrapped up.

NSSC ... from page 3

filter to look for records that begin with or contain the data entered, versus having to know exact titles. This approach allows for multiple returns on a search from which a user can select.

Among goals of the upgrade was refining the external training-request process that previously used the NF-1735 training request form. This form collected unneeded data and processing the request required extensive duplication of effort, as the form data had to be entered into SATERN by NSSC staff to merge it with training schedules and records. Adaptation of a standard external training request form, SF-182, and the team’s review of essential elements needed to schedule and document external training have significantly reduced the forms’ complexity. In addition, the new SF-182 process permits training data to be incorporated into the training system.

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